

2026 Pacific Water Conference Photo Contest Criteria and Rules

The 2026 Pacific Water Conference Contest is held to promote awareness of water and wastewater issues and environment through compelling and artistic imagery.

Criteria

Photos shall be submitted by AWWA-HI Section members and/or HWEA members. The categories for entries are:

(1) “The Power of Water” - Water is powerful and engineers utilize that power in various ways. With limited water resources in the State of Hawaii, water efficiency will also be highlighted. Photos for this theme will showcase projects that optimize the power of potable water, recycled water and wastewater.

(2) “Empowering the Water Workforce” - Photos for this theme must showcase water projects and explain how you as a member of the water workforce applied a new knowledge/skill. Show how the water and wastewater workforce is empowered to grow and come up with innovative solutions.

Photos shall be submitted digitally in either .JPG or .TIF format. Entries in each category will be judged by the Conference Committee based on the following criteria (equally weighted):

Creativity

Composition

Conformance with Category theme

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers will be determined for each category.

During the conference, attendees will also have the opportunity to vote for their favorite photo in each category. The photo which receives the most votes will be the People’s Choice winner.

Photo entries will be displayed online and in person during the conference along with the photographer’s description provided on the entry form. The description should provide the photographer’s perspective on how the photo meets the category theme.

Photos will be subject to screening prior to judging.

Prizes

Cash prizes will be awarded to winners in each category. Winners will be announced on the final day of the conference Thursday, February 12, 2026.

1st place: \$150

2nd Place: \$100

3rd Place: \$75

People’s Choice: \$50

Contest Rules

1. A maximum of two (2) photo entries are allowed per person per category. Each photo is eligible for entering only one (1) contest category.
2. The photo must be shot in Hawaii or the Pacific Islands (Guam, American Samoa, etc).
3. The photo must be the photographer's original work.
4. The photo must not have been previously published.
5. The photo must not have won any previous photo contest.
6. The photo must be an original image unaltered by computer software. 7. The photo must not infringe on any copyright, statutory, common law, or other rights of any person, firm or corporation, agency, or other entity.
7. All entries must be a minimum of 900 x 720 pixels.
8. The photo contest committee reserves the right to eliminate photos deemed to contain obscene, provocative, defamatory, or otherwise objectionable or inappropriate content.
9. If the photos are of a facility or other agency's assets, then such agencies may screen and deny the entry. Please obtain the agency's written permission prior to submittal and attach it to the Photo Contest Entry Form. The photo contest committee will be confirming that permission was granted.
10. A maximum of 10 entries per category will be displayed at the conference for the People's Choice vote.
11. The Pacific Water Conference has the right to use and publish the photos.
12. **All entries must be received at reina2@hawaii.edu no later than 11:59 pm (HST), Thursday February 5, 2026.**

